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PRESS RELEASE

121 tons of trash removed from Texas beaches Saturday

Volunteers enjoy perfect day at the beach for Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup

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(AUSTIN, Texas) —

A total of 7,334 volunteers hauled more than 121 tons of trash off Texas beaches Saturday for the 28th annual Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup.

"That's more than 22,002 hours of labor — all volunteer — working to keep Texas public beaches clean. What an amazing effort," said Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson. "That's nearly half a million dollars worth of work and a great example of how Adopt-A-Beach is one of the most successful volunteer efforts in the nation."

Saturday's cleanup wasn't just all work — at most sites volunteers enjoyed a party afterward hosted by cleanup sponsors such as Schlumberger. And aside from the usual cigarette butts, beer cans and diapers, some pretty odd and interesting items were found, including a lost or discarded love letter on South Padre Island, a \$100 bill found by a cub scout at Quintana Beach, a used pregnancy test kit on Cameron County beaches, false teeth in Galveston and a burned up purse and wallet at Boggy Creek Nature Park in Calhoun County.

Over the past 28 years, the Texas General Land Office's Adopt-A-Beach Program has brought more than 465,000 volunteers to the Texas coast. Those volunteers took more than 8,900 tons of trash with them. Adopt-A-Beach volunteers make Texas beaches cleaner for every living thing that depends on them, from local tourist bureaus to crabs, birds and turtles.

To learn how to join the next cleanup, visit www.TexasAdoptABeach.org or contact the GLO at 1-877-TX COAST. Those interested may also become a fan of the program at www.facebook.com/texasadoptabeach and follow us on Twitter @TXAdoptABeach.

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